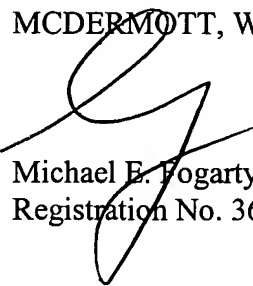


REMARKS

The above-referenced application is amended to re-number claims 17 and 18 as claims 18 and 19. Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY



Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
(202) 756-8000 SAB:prg
Facsimile: (202) 756-8087
Date: December 10, 2003